

Bike Basket

11 ½ x 8 ½ x 8 ½

Material: 5/8" FF
¼" FF
#3 RR natural and dyed
3/8" FF
½" FO
3/16" FF
Seagrass
Two 12" buckled straps



Spoke Cuts: From 5/8" FF cut 5 @ 33" and 9 @ 28". From 3/8" FF cut 4 @ 16". Soak the spokes in warm water for 1 minute along with a short length of ¼" FF. Mark the centers of the spokes on the bad sides.

Base Layout: Alternate laying the 33" and 16" spokes horizontally on the table in front of you with the marked sides up with NO space between. Vertically weave down the center with a 28" spoke starting UNDER the first horizontal spoke. Weave four more 28" spokes on each side of the vertical center.



Square the base to be 4 ¾" x 9 ¾".

Filler spokes: At this time you will 'bird's feet' the 16" filler spokes. Bend each filler spoke over the last vertical spoke. Cut the filler spokes to lay under the second vertical spoke. Tuck the filler spokes in pairs under the second vertical spoke.



Weave a locking row of ¼" FF around the base, mitering the corners.

Upset the spokes.



Side Weaving: Determine which long side will be your front and which will be the back of the basket. All the rows of weaving are started on the back of the basket. The back of the basket will be woven straight up at a 90 degree angle. The front of the basket will be allowed to 'pouch' out slightly. To do this, the spokes will be at a 45 degree angle for the first ten row of weaving. Keep the spokes evenly spaced as you weave. Weave the first row of weaving opposite the locking row on the base.

Weave 15 rows of 3/8" FF – these are start/stop rows with a four spoke overlap. Remember, all rows are started and stopped on the back side of the basket. The photo on the right shows a 'bird's eye' view from the top of the basket. It shows the straight weaving up the back and the pouch on the front of the basket.



Pack all weaving.

Triple Twine Arrow: At this point, do not let the front of the basket pouch out any more. Weave a paired triple twined arrow.

You will need three pairs: Pair up a dyed #3 RR weaver and a natural #3 RR weaver.

Start each pair behind three consecutive spokes on the short side of the basket - Keeping the piece of dyed on top of the natural in the pair. (See photo on right) Mark the spoke on the left of the first spoke started behind with a clothespin.



To begin the triple twine, take the set of weavers farthest on the left and weave over two spokes to the right, behind one spoke and to the outside.



Continue all the way around the basket, taking the farthest left set of weavers and weave over two spokes, behind one spoke and to the outside.



Stop weaving when you have woven around the spoke just to the left of where you began the first pair of weavers. (around the spoke with the clothespin) To step up, instead of taking the farthest left set of weavers, take the farthest RIGHT set of weavers and weave over two spokes, behind one spoke and to the outside.



Continue stepping up by taking the next set of weavers on the RIGHT and weave over two spokes, behind one and to the outside. Finish the step up by bringing the last set of weavers on the left over two spokes, behind one and to the outside. Do not remove the clothespin. The step up for the second part of the arrow will begin on the same spoke.

To make the arrow weave, you will weave the second row slightly different. First, twist the weavers behind the spoke to now make the dyed weaver BELOW the natural weaver.

Instead of weaving the left set of weavers over the weavers to the right, you will weave UNDER the weavers to the right, but still weave over two spokes, behind one and to the outside. Continue all the way around the basket.



Stop weaving when you have woven behind the spoke to the left of where you started. (Around the spoke with the clothes pin) Finish the row with a step up in this fashion: Remember, you had to weave UNDER the weavers to the right; therefore, the last three weavers will need to be inserted UNDER the weavers where you first started the second row. Weave the set on the RIGHT over two spokes, under the top two weavers and to the inside. See photo on right



Weave the next right set of spokes in the same manner. The last set of spokes will also weave over two spokes, under the top two weavers and to the inside. You will end the row behind the SAME three spokes you started behind.



Weave one row of 3/8" FF. THIS FIRST ROW AFTER THE TRIPLE TWINE NEEDS TO START THE SAME AS THE ROW OF 3/8" FF BELOW THE TRIPLE TWINE.



Locate the three center back spokes. The spoke on the right and left of these three will be tucked at this time to make room for your handlebar straps. You do NOT want to hide the triple twining on the inside of the basket. Tuck these spokes into the triple twining.



Starting behind the spoke to the right of the right most spoke tucked on the back of the basket,

lay a 3/8" weaver behind this spoke. Weave around the sides and front of the basket until you reach the spoke on the left of the left most spoke tucked on the back of the basket. End the weaver behind this spoke. (see photo on bottom of previous page)

Weave a short piece of 3/8" FF under, over and under the center three spokes on the back of the basket.

Starting on the *front* of the basket, weave a normal row of 3/8" FF.

Cut and tuck: Tuck **ALL** the spokes on the back of the basket! This will cover the ends of the weavers started behind the spokes. (See photo on right)



On the sides and front of the basket, cut and tuck as normal: Cut the spokes on the inside of the last row of weaving. Tuck the spokes on the outside of the last row of weaving to the inside of the basket under one row of weaving.

Rim: Rim the basket with 1/2" FO for the inside and outside rim with a 3" overlap on each. Fill the center of the rims with sea grass. Lash the basket with 3/16" FF. When lashing the back of the basket, lash twice in the space left for the handles. (See photo on right)



Embellishment: I added a reed flower on the front of my basket. Wet a piece of dyed and natural #3 RR about 25" long each. Loop the dyed RR to form a flower with five or six petals. Tie the center with a 20" length of waxed linen. **DO NOT CUT THE WAXED LINEN AFTER TYING THE FLOWER.**



Loop the natural RR to form a smaller flower with the same amount of petals. Tie the two flowers together using the same length of waxed linen.



I also added a third layer with #1 seagrass behind the dyed RR. Add a button for the center of the flower and tie the flower onto the front of the basket still using the same length of waxed linen.



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